IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

APRIL 24, 1822.

The Committee of Commerce and Manufactures, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the importation of foreign spirits—

REPORT:

That, in their opinion, the agricultural, as well as manufacturing interest of the United States would be promoted by prohibiting the importation of foreign spirits. That the quantity of spirits that would, in a short time, be manufactured in this country to supply the place of that now imported, would afford a source of revenue more efficient, and much less precarious, than that now derived from the importation of foreign spirits. But, as an immediate prohibition would injure the commercial interest of the United States, as well as diminish the revenue, until a system of excise could be brought into operation, the committee think it would be expedient to arrive gradually at the objects in view, by increasing the duties on foreign spirits. A bill, however, for this purpose, must be considered as a bill for raising revenue, and can only originate in the House of Representatives. The committee, therefore, submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures be discharged from the further consideration of the resolution instructing them to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the importation

of foreign spirits.